

REMARKS

I. Rejections under 35 USC §103

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-34 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Halperin et al. (US 5,564,434). Claim 1 has been amended to include an electrically insulative layer formed as a coating on an exterior surface of the cable conductor, wherein an outer diameter of the insulative layer is of a second diameter less than the first diameter of the lumen of the coil conductor such that an average gap exists between the insulative layer and an interior surface of the lumen of the coil conductor, wherein the insulative layer has a relative dielectric coefficient less than approximately 10, and wherein the insulative layer has an inner diameter. The office action admits that Halperin does not disclose a coating formed on the cable conductor. Thus, amended claim 1 is patentable over Halperin alone. Claim 20 has been similarly amended. Thus, claim 20 also is patentable over Halperin alone.

In the office action, claim 7 (now cancelled) was rejected as being unpatentable over Halperin in view of Cobian et al. (US 5,796,044). The contention is that formation of an insulative layer as a coating in Halperin is suggested by Cobian. While Cobian discloses formation of a coating on a lead conductor, nowhere does Cobian disclose the specific structure set forth in amended claims 1 and 20. The combination of Halperin and Cobian does not result in the claimed subject matter, as a whole, set forth in either amended claim 1 or amended claim 20.

II. Conclusion

In view of the amendments to the independent claims, the reliance upon Halperin, either alone or in combination with Cobian, to reject claims to the subject matter of the present invention is without basis. Accordingly, each of the previous rejections should be withdrawn. Applicants further submit that the claims are in proper form and condition for allowance, and request that a notice of allowance issue in due course.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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